

Dear Sir or Madame,

The following statistics were presented on a television program on PBS called NOW with Bill Moyers:

Number of companies owning a controlling interest in the media listed above in 1984: 50

Number of companies owning a controlling interest in the media listed above in 1987: 26

Number of companies owning a controlling interest in the media listed above in 1996: 10

Number of companies owning a controlling interest in the media listed above in 2002: 6

Reference: <http://www.pbs.org/now/politics/media.html>

Simply put, fewer interests controlling more media outlets diminishes the diversity of ideas and perspectives presented to the public. This is dangerous because without a democracy of ideas, our choices become limited. True, the internet does counterbalance the paucity of ideas expressed in the commercial media, but since most people get their information from commercial outlets, the counterbalance is only very slight.

Please do not loosen any more restrictions on broadcast ownership! In fact, tighten them if at all possible!

Very Sincerely,

Micah McBride

\*\*\* Groupthink erodes Democracy! \*\*\*